



Paul R. LePage
Governor, State of Maine

Paul K. Vestal, Chair
Edwin P. Chester, Esq. Vice Chair

Maine Juvenile Justice Advisory Group

MINUTES
April 27, 2011

I. Roll Call:

Present: Richard Brown, Ned Chester, Abigail Comee-McCourt, Jim Foss, Denise Giles, Jacinda Goodwin, Charles LaVerdiere, Randall Liberty, Margaret Longsworth, Joan McDonald, Jonathan Shapiro, Trish Shorey, Barry Stoodley, Christine Thibeault, and Paul Vestal

Absent: Cathy McLoy Ashland, Mark Boger, Nickole DeMerriitt, Dalene Dutton, Jamie Johnson, Shelley Reed, Hannah McMullen, Jim Morse, Dan Nichols, Doug Patrick, Adam Royer and Patrick Walsh

Staff: Kathryn McGloin, Elaine Brann

Guests: Commissioner Joseph Ponte, Noël Bonam, Ron Jenkins, Superintendent of Indian Education

Paul Vestal, JJAG Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:15A.M, and welcomed the JJAG Members. Paul asked Kathryn to introduce her guest. Kathryn introduced Ron Jenkins, Superintendent of Indian Education, Washington County Native American Representative. Ron talked about his work and gave a little bit of information about himself.

II. Minutes:

The minutes for the March JJAG meeting were approved.

Motion: To approve the March 23, 2011 Minutes

Moved: Jim Foss/Randall Liberty/2nd.

Action: Approved

III. Chair Report:

Paul reported that Commissioner John Morse will be at the JJAG for our June meeting. Paul stated that Kathryn McGloin met with the Appointments Clerk at the Governor's Office, Michael Hersey, and that meeting went very well. Paul discussed the financial outlook regarding the OJJDP funding and asked Kathryn to give everyone a brief overview of the 2010 funding.

Kathryn stated that the 2011 funding has been cut by 17 % throughout OJJDP. Kathryn was not sure if the 17% was across the board or if it targeted certain programs.

Paul discussed the letter he received from the CJJ regarding the May 20 – 24th CJJ Conference and stated that they were looking for donations in various amounts. Paul stated that we paid our dues and felt that it would be inappropriate for us to make any kind of contribution.

Motion: To respectfully decline the offer to donate money to the OJJDP.

Moved: Richard Brown/Randall Liberty/2nd.

Action: Approved

IV. Juvenile Justice Specialist Report:

Kathryn reported that she met with Mike Hersey, Appointments Clerk for the Governor's Office and stated that the Governor has suggested some changes on the application form and one of those changes would include a background check. The JJAG has nine (9) reappointments and further discussion would have to be made regarding the new form and reappointments. Kathryn reported that there is a new OJJDP Representative, Ricco Hall. Kathryn visited the Chiefs of Police and will be meeting with them again. Kathryn mentioned the Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative Committee (JDAI) and stated that they will be developing a working group and are asking for one or two SAG members to join that group. The May Sub-grantee Luncheon Meeting will be in Augusta at the Department of Public Safety, Fallen Heroes Room, May 25th. The OJJDP Conference is in October and we need to strategize about the folks that get to go.

Paul asked Barry to give a brief report regarding the changes in the Department of Corrections. Barry reported that DOC is being reinvented in many ways and there will be improvement throughout the system. Barry stated that the Juvenile Division will remain intact and will move forward as planned.

V. Commissioner, Maine Department of Corrections:

Paul Vestal introduced Commissioner Joseph Ponte to the members and asked members to introduce themselves to the Commissioner.

Commissioner Ponte spoke about getting around the State of Maine and how vast and spread out it was. The Commissioner also spoke about the reorganization of the DOC and that we now have two new Associate Commissioners in place. Cindy Brann has been appointed as the Associate Commissioner for Adult Services. The Commissioner stated that he was very impressed with the division of juvenile services in Maine and all the work that has been done to make this one of the best in the Country.

Several of the members updated the Commissioner on the work that they were involved in and members gave an explanation on the responsibilities of each committee.

VI. Disproportionate Minority Contact Coordinator Report:

Ned Chester gave his report on his meeting with the NAACP Subcommittee on Education. He spoke for about one and a half hours and his presentation was very well received.

Noël Bonam DMC Coordinator gave his report.

- NAACP Education Subcommittee. There were a couple of school board members present who were very receptive and came up with some very good ideas.
- Racism Workshop Training in Maine – Good response, good diverse group of trainers and workshops
- Noël discussed the EPIY Training and stated that there was a good turnout of officers and many areas of the state were represented. Sent out thank you letters to Police Chiefs for allowing their officers to attend.
- Youth Advisory Council Stake Holders Meeting. Working on creative methods to communicate with youth.
- Refugee and Immigration Services Workshop – only one in the State. Training is all filled up.
- Follow-up on Muskie Research. Meeting with Police Chiefs. Need to work on quantitative data.
- Conference on Juvenile Justice National Spring Training May 20th through the 24th.

VII. Committee Reports:

Before Christine gave her report, she asked Barry to discuss LD 1074 An Act to Create the Position of Juvenile Community Service Director in the Department of Corrections. Barry gave an explanation of this bill and stated that the DOC is in opposition.

- Does not support creating a new position.
- Does not approve of collection of supervision fees for juveniles.
- Does not support increasing adult supervision fees.

There will be a work session May 2, 2011.

Christine reported on other bills she is tracking and gave a brief summary of what each bill contained and its status.

- LD 1299 An Act to Allow Deferred Disposition in Juvenile Cases.
- LD 980 An Act to Prohibit Cyberbullying in Public Schools.
- LD 1413 An Act to Amend the Maine Juvenile Code To Address the issue of Competency
- LD 1040 An Act to Amend the Maine Juvenile Code

Joan McDonald gave a brief report on the Grants Committee stating that we have about \$1.3 million in grants. Joan mentioned a couple of programs that the JJAG

The mission of the Maine Juvenile Justice Advisory Group is to advise and make recommendations to state policy makers and to promote effective system level responses that further the goals of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act

sponsors - Dr. Ross Greene CPC and Five Town Communities that Care.

Jim Foss spoke regarding the Jail Monitoring Committee and improvements that have been made regarding transportation and the recently opened THR which eliminates the lengthy and costly process of transporting juveniles to and from court.

Before the meeting adjourned, Kathryn announced that it was Administrative Professional's Day and thanked Elaine Brann for her work at the JJAG.

VII. Adjourn:

The meeting adjourned at 11:26 A.M.

The next meeting will be our third Annual Sub-grantee Luncheon on May 25, 2011 at the Department of Public Safety, Fallen Heroes Room, from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM.